

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSM-03 SAM-01 OMB-01 ACDA-07 AF-08 IO-13

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /090 W

----- 091755

R 231228Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6045

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EG, KU

SUBJ: KUWAITI DEF MIN'S STATEMENTS REPORTEDLY CAUSE

KUWAITI - EGYPTIAN TIFF

REF: KUWAIT 3937

1. REPORTED BRIEF STATEMENT BY KUWAITI DEF MIN SA'AD, EXPRESSING HOPE THAT EGYPTIAN FORCES WOULD BE WITHDRAWN FROM LIBYAN BORDER (REFTEL) APPARENTLY HAS RUFFLED EGYPTIAN FEATHERS. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS HERE, KUWAITI EMBASSY IN CAIRO HAS ISSUED CLARIFYING "OFFICIAL STATEMENT". TEXT OF STATEMENT NOT AVAILABLE HERE, BUT KUWAIT PRESS INDICATES THAT STATEMENT EITHER DENIES THAT DEF MIN CALLED FOR WITHDRAWAL "IN THESE TERMS" (AL WATAN, AUGUST 23) OR THAT DEFMIN "DID NOT BY FAR ALLUDE TO" THE SUBJECT OF WITHDRAWAL (AL RAI AL AM, AUGUST 23).

2. MEANWHILE, KUWAIT DEF MIN HIMSELF HAS DONE SOME BACKTRACKING: AUGUST 22 AL SIYASAH REPORTS HIM ALLUDING TO EARLIER REMARKS AND POINTING OUT THAT "WHAT PRIMARILY CONCERNS KUWAIT WAS AND STILL IS ARAB SOLIDARITY AND THE NEED TO SAFEGUARD IT". DEF MIN REPORTEDLY MENTIONED NEITHER EGYPT NOR LIBYA THIS TIME.

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3. COMMENT: DEF MIN'S SALLY INTO BORDER AFFAIRS OF ARAB

"BROTHERS" WAS UNDOUBTEDLY WELL INTENTIONED REFLECTION OF
KUWAIT'S FRUSTRATION OVER YAWNING POLITICAL CHASM BETWEEN EGYPT
AND LIBYA. GOK SEES THIS CHASM AS SERIOUS THREAT TO SUCCESS
OF PROPOSED ARAB SUMMIT ON LEBANON, WHICH IT STRONGLY DESIRES.
MAESTRONE

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 23 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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04 MAY 2006

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